

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 42, 44, 45, 47, 59, 60, and 61 have been amended. Claim 62 has been added. Claims 42-47 and 59-62 are now pending in this application.

Applicants initially note that the amendments to claims 44 and 45, which change claim dependency, are made to provide the terms in these claims with proper antecedent basis.

Claims 42-47 and 59-61 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Tornero et al. (USP 5,050,933). Applicants traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Each of claims 42, 47, 60, and 61 defines a child seat that comprises “a base configured to include a belt path to receive a lapbelt of an automobile restraint system.” Tornero et al. does not teach or suggest such a base. Tornero et al. discloses a “stacking” chair that can nestle with other chairs of the same type for compact storage purposes (Tornero et al. at col. 1, lines 6 -12). The base of Tornero et al.'s chair does not have a belt path to receive a lapbelt of an automobile restraint system. For at least this reason, applicants submit that claims 42 (and its dependent claims 43-46), 47, 60, and 61 are not anticipated under 35 USC §102(b) by Tornero et al.

Claim 59 has been rewritten into independent form. Claim 59 defines a child seat “wherein the armrest includes a connecting portion that slidably *fits over* a corresponding receiving portion of the base.” By comparison, Tornero et al. discloses an arm 16 that slides *into* the base frame 13 of a chair. For at least the reason, applicants submit that claim 59 is not anticipated under 35 USC §102(b) by Tornero et al.

Claims 42-47 and 59-61 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Wu (USP 6,296,313). Applicants traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

As stated above, each of claims 42, 47, 60, and 61 defines a child seat that comprises “a base configured to include a belt path to receive a lapbelt of an automobile restraint system.” Wu does not teach or suggest such a base. Wu discloses an adjustable armrest for a conventional chair. The base of Wu’s chair does not have a belt path to receive an automobile lapbelt. For at least this reason, applicants submit that claims 42 (and its dependent claims 43-46), 47, 60, and 61 are not anticipated under 35 USC §102(b) by Wu.

Claim 59 defines a child seat “wherein the armrest includes holes for receiving protrusions from the receiving portion of the base.” By comparison, the armrest of Wu’s chair does not include holes for receiving protrusions, and the base of Wu’s chair does not include protrusions for receipt in the holes. Applicants note that, although the Office Action states that “armrest 11 includes holes 32,” holes 32 are associated with adjusting arm 30 of the chair base, not the armrest 11. For at least this reason, applicants submit that claim 59 is not anticipated under 35 USC §102(b) by Wu.

New claim 62 defines a child seat “wherein the armrest includes a connecting portion that fits over a corresponding receiving portion of the base; wherein the receiving portion includes a flexible tab and a protrusion on the flexible tab; and wherein the connecting portion includes first and second slots to receive the protrusion, the first and second slots corresponding to the first and second positions, respectively.” Neither Tornero et al. nor Wu teach or suggest a child seat with the quoted combination of features.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to

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Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 CFR 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 15, 2004

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